



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Naoki Yoshida

Serial No.: 10/814,329

Group Art Unit: 3679

Filing Date: April 1, 2004

Examiner: James M. Hewitt

For: PIPING CONNECTOR AND METHOD OF FABRICATING THE SAME

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 through §1.98 and pursuant to applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, applicant respectfully brings the following documents listed on a Japanese Office Action issued in a counterpart foreign application, dated September 16, 2008 and the attached form PTO-1449, to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. Additionally, English language abstracts of the reference are included herewith.

This citation does not constitute an admission that the references are relevant or material to the claims. It is only cited as constituting related art of which applicants are aware.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 35 U.S.C. §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits an English translation of an official action by a foreign examiner in which the references were cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the references were cited in a related application on related subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the references, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the application

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under the laws of that country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made, the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted herewith.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was the first citation of that item by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, which occurred not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

It is respectfully requested that the listed references be considered by the Examiner and formally made of record in this application.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: November 2, 2008
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